IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Douglas P. ALLARD

Appl. No. 10/724,275

Filed: November 26, 2003

DOWNSPOUT FILTER For:

Confirmation No. 8914

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: Cecil, Terry K.

Atty. Docket: 11533.0028.NPUS00

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed;
 - □ a. Within three months of the U.S. filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
 - □ b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;
 - c. Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits;
 - ✓ d. Before the mailing of a first Office Action after filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.115.

No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

or;

- □ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in paragraph 1(a)-1(d) above, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, or action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and
 - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information

 Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign

 patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three

 months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37

 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
 - □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), or

- □ c. The Commission is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$____in payment of the Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing our docket number 11533.0028.NPUS00.
- □ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee and
- □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information

 Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign

 patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three

 months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37

 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
- □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- □ 4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.
- ☑5. The document(s) was/were cited in related International Patent Application
 PCT/US05/04736 (related to co-pending USSN 11/044,482). An English language
 version of the International Search Report (ISR) is attached for the Examiner's
 information.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

☑ 8. Copies of U.S. patents and published applications are not attached since the application was filed after June 30, 2003. <u>US PTO OG Notices: August 5, 2003.</u>

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 11533.0028.NPUS00.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J.Bell (Reg. Nø.39,604)

Date: February 15, 2007

HOWREY, LLP 2941 Fairview Park Drive, Box 7 Falls Church, VA 22042 (202) 783-0800

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

1

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/724,275			
Filing Date	November 26, 2003			
First Named Inventor	Allard			
Art Unit	1723			
Examiner Name	Cecil, Terry K.			
Attorney Docket Number	11533.0028.NPUS00			

Examiner nitials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	us-6,730,222	05-04-2004	Andoh, et al.	
	2	us-6,951,619	10-04-2005	Bryant	
		US-			
•		US-			
		us-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³⁻ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶		
		Cite Foreign Patent Document	Cite Foreign Patent Document Publication Date	Cite Foreign Patent Document Publication Date Name of Patentee or No.1 Publication Date Applicant of Cited Document	Cite Foreign Patent Document Publication Date Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document Where Relevant Passages		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.